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THE MONTHLY GULL BULLETIN

Volume 51 Berkeley, Calif. February 1969 Number 2

PAUL COVEL'S HAWAII - FEB. 13

Paul and Marion Covel took a "Hawaiian Holiday" in September to visit the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, Oahu and Kauai, where they photographed flowers, trees, birds, parks, and sunsets. They will show us their beautiful slides at the regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society on **Thursday, February 13,** in San Francisco's Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park. Paul Covel is Oakland's famous Park Naturalist and Golden Gate Audubon's Conservation Chairman.

The meeting will begin at **7:30 p.m.** The Hall of Flowers is on Ninth Avenue at Lincoln—a well lighted intersection at the edge of Golden Gate Park. Visitors are welcome.—MRS. PHYLLIS ZWEIGART, *Program Chairman.*

FEBRUARY-MARCH FIELD TRIPS

Sat., Feb 15—Tomales State Park and McClure's Beach, Marin County. Meet**9 a.m.** at Pt. Reyes Seashore Headquarters, Olema. (About 1¼ hours' driving time from San Francisco.) Prepare for trail and beach walking. Leader, A. Laurence Curl, 526-7004.

Sat., March 8—Grizzly and Joice Islands, Solano County, to observe nesting activities of White-tailed Kites and Marsh Hawks. Our past president, Warren Larson, who showed his 16 mm. movies of the kites at our January meeting, will lead this trip. Meet **9 a.m.** in parking lot of Fairfield's city park on West Texas St. off Freeway 80. Leader, A Warren Larson, 525-9149.

Bring lunch, binoculars, scopes and friends on both field trips.

Sat., March 29—Tilden Park, Berkeley. (Details in next *Gull*)

Among areas to visit in February are California's beautiful deserts. Our first trip to Death Valley in mid-November alerted other birders to visit the area a week later and as a result many unusual birds were seen again, including over 40 Bohemian Waxwings near Scotty's Castle.—MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman.*

"OUTBACK AUSTRALIA" COMING FEBRUARY 3

Eben McMillan will bring *Outback Australia* to Berkeley on **Monday, Februarv 3** at **8:15 p.m.** in the Martin Luther King Jr. (Garfield) School Auditorium, Rose St. at Grant. This outstanding film will be the fourth in the current season of Audubon Wildlife Films.

Few places on earth today remain so mysterious as that vast portion of Australia known as the Outback. Gladys and Eben McMillan covered 15,000 miles of this rugged country on a camping trip. Along the coast, north from Sydney, eucalyptus forests cover the mountain slopes, and rivers gush into the sea. In the marshes, brolgas, jabiru storks, straw-necked ibis, spoonbills, pelicans, pied geese and burdekin ducks abound, while blossoming eucalyptus and banksia attract honeyeaters and brightly colored lorikeets. At an inland water hole budgerigars and zebra finches swarm by the thousands. Crested pigeons and pink-breasted galahs compete with large sulphur-crested cockatoos for perching places. In the evening, big red kangaroos come in to drink and then bound away in graceful twenty and thirty-foot leaps.

On September 20, 1968 Eben and his brother Ian were named Fellows of the California Academy of Sciences in recognition of unusual attainments in science. Eben is honored for his work with the Audubon Society and has made many contributions to the study of natural history. Ian is well known for his work in trying to save the California Condor from extinction. The McMillan brothers are members of the Paso Robles Audubon Society.

Eben McMillan, as a young lad, enjoyed riding horseback or hiking in the hills surrounding his home near Shandon in central California, where he developed a keen interest in the plant and animal life around him. After completing his high school education in Shandon, Eben worked as a cowpuncher and horsebreaker on various cattle ranches throughout the area. After his marriage in 1936, he and Mrs. McMillan settled in the Carrizo Plains, where he became manager of a large cattle and wheat raising operation. Fifteen years later the McMillans moved to a ranch of their own in the Shandon Hills, where they provide a refuge for wild creatures in the area.

If you do not have a season ticket for the Audubon Wildlife Films, single admission at the door is $1.50 for adults and $1.00 for students under 18. Mrs. Marvin Fallgatter of Piedmont is Wildlife Films Chairman.

OPEN HOUSE AT NATURE TRAINING CENTER

Each month Bertha Underhill gives readers of *The Gull* a report on current developments in Audubon Nature Training. This month that report takes the form of our flyer, "How to Explore Nature in the City", enclosed with this issue. We want you to see how the program looks in print.

We want you to see it in person, too. It's a good program, well received now after four and a half years of testing. You sponsor it through your Audubon membership. Maybe you are curious to see what it's all about. To satisfy that curiosity, we've set aside two Wednesdays this month, **February 19** and **February 26 (10-2)** as Open House for Golden Gate Audubon Society members. You are cordially invited to come to the Nature Center at Aquatic Park in Berkeley for a cup of coffee and to see what's going on. Bring your binoculars and combine your visit with watching birds!

We're hoping these open house dates will result in new friends for nature training—not just a mailing list, but individual people who want things done about education for a better environment—people we know exist, but we cannot name.

To get to the Center, go to the foot of Bancroft Way, turn left and drive to the extreme southeastern end of Aquatic Park. You'll see the building alongside a large cypress tree with a sign that reads "Nature Center." If you can't make the open house dates, but want to help the educational activities of the Society, please call us at 549-1038 or write Audubon Nature Training, Box 103, Berkeley 94701.—PHYLLIS LINDLEY

Do you know a teacher, youth group leader, recreation worker, summer camp counselor, parent or grandparent whose work with children might benefit from Audubon Nature Training? Tell him about Audubon by giving him this issue of *The Gull* with the schedule of classes at Aquatic Park enclosed.

The program depends primarily upon word-of mouth publicity. Each personal contact by an Audubon member is a vital service to conservation education. Beaches wouldn't exist without individual grains of sand. Our thanks to you!

"THE CYGNET"

Recently the GGAS Board voted to discontinue *The Cygnet*, our publication for young people, because of rising costs. We are most grateful to Mrs. Janet Nickelsburg for the outstanding job she has done over many months as *Cygnet editor*. We look forward to future stories and articles by Mrs. Nickelsburg as enclosures with *The Gull*.—MRS. HERBERT BOESE, *President*.

OAKLAND PARK NATURALIST PROGRAM

"Signs of Spring" and "More Winter Birds" will be themes of a Lakeside Park walk with Oakland Park Naturalist Paul Covel on **Saturday morning, February 8.** The walk will begin at the Rotary Natural Science Center at **9:30 a.m.,** concluding by noon. (Saturday walks in hill parks will resume in March).

"The California Deserts," an introduction in kodachromes by the Park Naturalist, will be shown in the Natural Science Center on **Sunday, February 9** at **4:15 p.m.**

"Reign of the Rodents," will be an illustrated lecture by Assistant Naturalist Lionel Kett in the Center on **Sunday, February 16,** at **2:30 p.m.** "Life in the Desert" and "California Deserts," two short films, will continue the *Know Your Deserts* series in the Center at**4:15 p.m.**

"Beaver Valley," the popular Disney film, will be shown in the Center on **Sunday, February 23,** at **2:30 p.m.** "The California Indian", an illustrated lecture by Park Naturalist Paul Covel, will be given in the Center at **4:15 p.m.**

The Robin Roost behind Woodminster Theatre in Joaquin Miller Park will be introduced by Park Naturalist Covel on Saturday afternoons, **February 8** and **22** at **4:30 p.m.**

For a copy of the complete *Naturalist Program* of the Oakland Park Dept., visit the Rotary Natural Science Center in Lakeside Park, Bellevue at Perkins.

CLEVELAND GRANT'S "AFRICA" IN OAKLAND FEB. 25

Photographer-lecturer Cleveland Grant will present his film on Africa **Tuesday, February 25,** at **8:15 p.m.** in the Oakland Auditorium Theatre, 10th and Fallon Sts. *Africa* will be the fourth personally narrated film in the Wide World Film Lecture Series of 1968-69 presented by the Oakland Museum Association's Natural Science Guild and the Oakland Museum's Natural Sciences Division. Proceeds benefit the fund for Museum acquisitions in the natural sciences and support the educational programs. Single admission is $1.75 for adults and 75¢ for children under 16 (available at the Theatre Box Office on night of performance).

COVEL'S CONSERVATION CORNER

"Give An Alligator His Hide for Christmas," a slogan used by a Cincinnati Audubon group to discourage buying of alligator bags and other items, was an extension of mounting conservationists' campaigns across the U.S. to stop or curtail American women's purchases of rare hides for adornment. Persuasion, publicity and even boycotts are methods being used, but they may be too late to save the leopard, cheetah, jaguar and other big cats. The Endangered Species Bill was passed by the House in the last Congress and cleared for action by the Senate Commerce Committee, but blocked at the last by furrier interests. Similar bills should be introduced early in this 91st Congress; *they must not fail this time!* Many other Western nations are prepared to initiate similar action if only Congress will come through with this urgent measure! Audubonites will watch closely.

Commercial lobbies that block such legislation are not only greedy but short-sighted. What happens to their jobs and profits when these vanishing species are exterminated in the wild? Proper laws and controls established in time might allow a safe annual harvest of the big cats in Africa and other regions, like the fur seal international agreements.

Whales of many species are being slaughtered so relentlessly and so efficiently "there may not be a whale alive in a few years," according to Dr. Roger Payne, quoted in the December issue of *Audubon Leader's Conservation Guide.* Last year 52,046 whales and 20,000 porpoises were killed in this Great Age of Slaughter, as Dr. Payne terms it,—and thanks to modern sonar and radio devices. More information is available from "Whales," New York Zoological Society, Bronx, New York 10460.

Canada Geese—the several hundred migrants that winter on Contra Costa reservoirs—will have people and boats to contend with when San Pablo Reservoir is opened to the public this year. Mr. Duane Madison, E.B.M.U.D. Recreation Manager, assures your Chairman that every pos-

SPRING SCHEDULES -- 1969

Environmental Education — for elementary school teachers

Tuesdays (3:30-5)	or Thursdays (3:30-5)	or Tuesdays (3:30-5)
Feb 11,18,25,Mar 4,11,18,25 (omit 4/1) last meeting 4/8	Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6,13,20,27 & June 3

Eight weekly 1½-hour sessions, outdoors and in, at Aquatic Park in Berkeley.
No difference in program content among these three series.
Fee ($5) includes all materials distributed during the series.
In-service credit (optional) from most East Bay school districts; ask for details.

"Sounds great! How do I enroll?" See below. Please register in advance.

Curiosity Training — for youth group leaders

Thursdays* (10-11:30? 1-2:30?)	or Fri (10-11:30)	or Wed (10-11:30)	or Fridays (10-11:30)
Feb 6, 13, 20 & 27	Feb 7,14,21,28	Mar 5,12,19,26	May 9,16,23, June 6 (omit Memorial Day)

*(Thursday morning or afternoon, depending on the preferences of those enrolling)

No difference in program content among these, our four regular series.
In addition this spring we are offering the following special series:

Thurs (2:30-4): Mar 6,13,20 & 27 - for recreation workers and playground personnel

HOW TO EXPLORE NATURE IN THE CITY

Audubon Nature Training

Aquatic Park
Berkeley, California

Audubon Training provides outdoor education in an urban environment for adult leaders of youth. We focus on the child through those adults who will introduce him to the out of doors. We focus on nature through everyday encounters that lead to basic understanding.

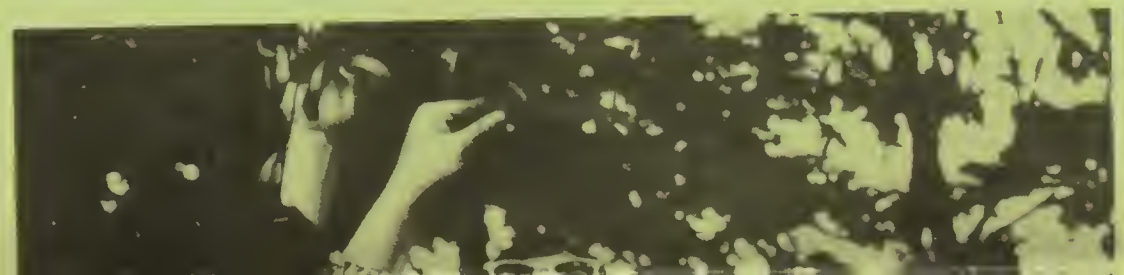
Each 1½-hour session includes at least one hour out of doors, emphasizing direct contact with nature just beyond the door. These outdoor experiences are supplemented by demonstrations and displays inside the nature training center.

Serving 200 adults throughout the Bay Area. Reaching 5000 children each school year.

OUTDOOR DISCOVERIES

demonstrate how to observe, enjoy and interpret natural processes and living things

TEACHERS
in-service and
pre-service



Playgrounds
Rec Centers

Sunday

Camp Fire leaders

Camp & Day Camp Counselors

Parent Nurseries

Parents Grandparents

keeping the child of the city in touch with nature

Cracks in the asphalt, a fallen leaf, water flowing from a leaky sprinkler; earthworm castings, plant galls, thorns, holes and shadows -- finds like these become springboards for discovering nature in the city.

Using an outdoor "classroom" that resembles the schoolyard, playground, backyard or vacant lot, we explore to find out how nature works. Our teaching approach aims at stimulating awareness, inquiry and the urge to "put two and two together" -- to think ecologically. Those participating learn from what they observe. There is a personal involvement in each new discovery.

Audubon Training offers a uniquely practical approach to urban ecology. Experiences gained each session are transferable immediately to the schoolroom, youth group or to the home.

Auspices Golden Gate Audubon Society, Berkeley Recreation & Parks and Unified School District
Instructor: Miss Phyllis Lindley

Fee ($3) includes all materials distributed during the series.

"Just what I need! How do I enroll?" See below. Please register in advance.

Other Wonder Workshops

Fridays (10-11:30): March 7, 14, 21 and 28
trains you for exploring the outdoors with your own family or grandchildren

Fridays (10-11:30): April 11, 18, 25 and May 2
trains you for volunteer work with shut-ins in convalescent hospitals

Wednesdays (1-2:30): April 16, 23, 30 and May 7
trains you for working with pre-schoolers in nurseries and day care centers

Wednesdays (10-11:30): May 14, 21, 28 and June 4
trains you to be a community resource volunteer in elementary school science

Four weekly 1½-hour sessions, outdoors and in, at Aquatic Park in Berkeley.
Fee ($3) includes all materials distributed during the series.

"Very interesting! How do I enroll?" See below. Please register in advance.

TO ENROLL, mail your name, address and the opening date of the series you want to Audubon Nature Training, P. O. Box 103, Berkeley 94701. Or telephone your enrollment to us at 549-1038. The series fee may be paid in advance (checks payable to Audubon Nature Training) or at your first meeting. We will send enrollment confirmation by return mail, including an outline of topics, directions on how to get to Aquatic Park and clothing suggestions. Dress warmly!

• Fall '69 schedules and dates will be available in June •

sible step will be taken to protect the birds' grazing and water rights. This we'll watch closely!—PAUL F. COVEL, *Conservation Chairman.*

As reported in the January *Gull* the Utah Construction and Mining Co. quarry application for Apperson Ridge near Sunol Valley Regional Park will have a public hearing before the Alameda County Planning Commision on **Wednesday, February 5,** in the Public Works Bldg., 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward For the exact time, please phone Conservation Chairman Paul Covel (536-4120) or the East Bay Regional Parks' Headquarters (531-9300).

THE NEW MAN AT INTERIOR

"Some disturbing statements were made by Governor Walter J. Hickel of Alaska in his first press conference after President-elect Nixon chose him to be his Secretary of the Interior. At one point, while taking issue with the present Administration's water pollution control efforts, Mr. Hickel said he was concerned that if national water standards were set too high, it 'might hinder industrial development' in some areas. At another point he said he didn't believe in 'conservation for conservation's sake,' explaining: 'Just to withdraw a large area for conservation purposes and lock it up for no reason doesn't have any merit.'

"Certainly a man who believes 'conservation purposes' could ever be equated with 'no reason' doesn't define 'conservation' the way we do at the National Audubon Society. . . . "—AUDUBON LEADER'S CONSERVATION GUIDE.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH, BOLINAS LAGOON

Under joint sponsorship of S. F. Bay Area Audubon Societies to protect a major rookery of Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

The Ecological Library at Audubon Canyon Ranch is soliciting donations to its shelves, both generally and specifically. For example, the following books are needed to fill our Sierra Club Series: *Galápagos, Baja California, Glacier Bay, Kauai, Navajo Wildlands, The Wild Cascades, Not Man Apart, Gentle Wilderness, Almost Ancestors, On The Loose, Island In Time, Medicine for Mountaineering, Wilderness in a Changing World.*

In addition to the books listed, we would appreciate any other titles Audubon members and friends might be able to contribute. Periodicals and government publications are also welcomed. Books are protected in fireproof, warm and dry facilities and will be available to all visitors for use at the Ranch only. Any book donated will bear a plate with the donor's

name. In the event several copies of any given book or periodical are available, we would appreciate these being sent to the Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory library in care of John Ralph.

The program at the Ranch is also in need of a dictation machine. The phone number is 868-0563 and the mailing address is Highway 1, Stinson Beach, 94970.—ROBERT DENNIS REINHARDT, *Executive Director.*

The following gifts of remembrance were made to Canyon Ranch:

In Memory of:	*Gift of:*
Gertrude Douglass Bennett	Aileen Pierson, Marin Audubon Society, William S. Picher
Alan Faye	Isabel B. Faye
Raymond G. Bressler, Jr.	James G. Hupp
Theodore Barrett	Donald and Carole Truman
Emily Churchill Eaton	Mr. & Mrs. Graham B. Moody, Jr.
George Wolff	Mr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Towne
Ruby Ethel Lamb	Rachel A. Weckerle
Charles Goodwin Thompson	Enid Thompson

A gift was also made *in honor of* Dr. Albert Boles by the Boy Scout Troop No. 254.

—DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman*

Gifts in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene D. Bennett were sent to the Audubon Nature Training Program by Aileen Pierson and by the Golden Gate Audubon Board.

OBSERVATIONS

Gerard Brady reports that a *Swamp Sparrow*, a White-throated Sparrow, a *Gray-headed Junco* and a Slate-colored Junco were among the mid-December visitors at his Inverness Motel.

Roberta Long reports a *European Widgeon* on the Arboretum pond in Golden Gate Park in late December. This species was photographed there during the winter of 1967-68.

The Tomales Bay Count (Dec. 28) included 7 Oldsquaws and a Blue-winged Teal. Drake's Bay Count (Dec. 29) had 2 *Emperor Geese*, a *Least Bittern*, a Bald Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon. Madrone Audubon Count (Dec. 21) included *Rhinoceros* and *Cassin's Auklets*, *Marbled* and *Ancient Murrelets*, and *Black-legged Kittiwakes* from a boat off Bodega Head.

SAVE RICHARDSON BAY

"There is now an application before the BCDC to fill the central part of the small Richardson Bay with a 9-acre island and 7 acres of access piers for a massive high-rise convention center. Dredgings from the Sausalito Canal would provide the fill for this project. This is being strongly opposed

by the Marin Conservation League. We must support their efforts in trying to save this valuable open space. Let key people know how you feel about your environment."—Madrone Leaves, December, Madrone Audubon Society.

SPRING PROGRAM AT RICHARDSON BAY SANCTUARY

The National Audubon Society is pleased to announce the appointment of Natural Science Education Resources (NSER) to direct and develop all educational programs at the Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and Education Center, Tiburon, Calif. Coordinator is Mrs. Rembert B. Kingsley, Box 588, Ross. Phone: 456-3754.

Programs for Teachers.—A Workshop for Elementary School Teachers: *The Ecology of Trees.* Sonoma State Extension, e480, 2 upper division units. Thursdays, 4 to 6 p.m. **Mar. 27 to May 29.** One all day Saturday field trip. Fee: $33. Registration at first class meeting or pre-register through the office of Mr. Ernest White, Marin County Schools Office, Corte Madera. Phone: 924-9500.—A Nature Program for the Mill Valley School District which involves in-depth training for 12 to 16 teachers: Financed by the National Audubon Society and the Mill Valley School District, the program will be conducted part of the time at the Sanctuary and part of the time at each of the four schools, beginning **March 19.**

Programs for Children.—Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders are taken on field trips through the Sanctuary as part of a volunteer program. Led by Mrs. Elizabeth Terwilliger, who is assisted by volunteers from Marin Audubon Society, children are involved in experiences designed to awaken all of their senses in the discovery of nature. On rainy days, classes are held at their schools. Field trip day: Thursday.—4th, 5th and 6th grade students, under the leadership of biologists from NSER, explore and develop the relationships existing between the plants and animals living together in the various natural areas of the Sanctuary. 4th, 5th and 6th grade teachers attend an orientation at the Sanctuary prior to bringing their classes. This includes a "pre-view" field trip, a film, suggested classroom activities and a discussion of the ecology of the Sanctuary. Field trip days: Tuesday and Wednesday. Orientation meetings once a month. Reservation for teacher orientation meetings and for field trips for school children are made through Mr. Ernest White, Marin County Schools Office, Corte Madera.

Programs for Adults.—*A Nature Workshop.* In a series of outdoor nature experiences, the ecology and natural history of tide pools, the forest, pond life, chaparral and grasslands will be explored. Contingent with each trip in the field, projects such as seaweed prints, terrariums and rubbings will be developed. Mondays: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Winter session: **Feb. 17 to Mar. 24** Spring session: **April 7 to May 12.** Fee: $18 per session. For information and registration please phone or write to Mrs. Katherine Cuneo, 152 Duran Dr., San Rafael 94903. Phone: 479-2814

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Canyon Ranch Film Crmn.	Mrs. Bonnie Smith	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco 94116	681-7635

Send address changes to Membership Secretary promptly; Post Office does not forward THE GULL. Monthly meetings second Thursday 7:30 p.m. Joint membership, Local & National $10 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately $2 per year.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.